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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO. [redacted]

646

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TOPIC German and Soviet Border Guard Personnel in Land Thuringia

EVALUATION See below PLACE OBTAINED [redacted] 25X1

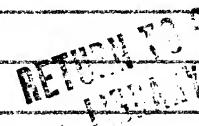
DATE OF CONTENT Late October to late November 1950

25X1 DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 17 January 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS



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[redacted]

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1. On 23 October 1950, the VP border detachment in Lauchroeden (L 51/H 66) was reinforced by 20 police, who arrived from Sondershausen (M 52/D 11) carrying full field equipment. On 24 October, the VP border detachment in Wartha (L 51/H 76) was reinforced by 20 police.
2. On 11 November, a Soviet lieutenant colonel and three majors inspected the Soviet komendatura in Gerstungen. They rode in passenger cars [redacted] were recently assigned to the Soviet komendatura in Gerstungen. *
3. On 11 November, 15 Soviet soldiers were seen digging three 3-man foxholes at the railroad embankment just west of Sallmannshausen (L 52/H 66). From the foxholes, the Autobahn could be covered with fire.

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4. On 7 November, a VP Grenzbereitschaft, commanded by VP Oberrat "wolf" (fnu) was located in Mihla (M 52/H 87). The officers of the unit's headquarters included VP Kommissar Sadler (fnu), PK officer, and VP Rat Brauner (fnu), headquarters commandant. The VP Grenzbereitschaft controlled Grenzkommandaturen in Creuzburg, Geismar and Ahrenshausen. Each Grenzkommandatur had four Grenzkommandos. The Grenzkommandatur in Creuzburg was headed by VP Rat Ley (fnu), with VP Meister Bauer (fnu), the PK Leiter. It controlled Grenzkommandos in Gross-Dürchla, Ifta, Pferdsdorf, and Neuendorf.

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5. VP Inspekteur Jopp (fnu), chief of the Grenzpolizei in Land Thuringia, was among those who attended a public meeting in Berka (L 51/H 66) on 9 October. He rode in police sedan [redacted]

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6. On 2 November, it was learned that four truckloads of soldiers had arrived at the Soviet komendatura in Gerstungen during the night of 30 October, bringing the total strength of the komendatura personnel allegedly up to 45 officers and 205 EM, who were commanded by a lieutenant colonel. The troops who arrived during the night of 30 October rode on trucks [redacted] occupied by a

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- lieutenant colonel, was identified in front of the komendatura in Gerstungen on 1 November. **

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7. The Soviet border guard detachment in Dippach was brought up to 10 men in

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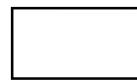
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- early November. Another border guard detachment of 10 men had recently been established at Fitzroda.
8. On 6 November, the Soviet guards at the intersection of the Berka-Richelsdorf and the Obersuhl-Untersuhl roads were replaced by VP guards. The Soviets moved into the bunker on the Untersuhl-Obersuhl dirt road.
 9. At 3 p.m. on 18 November, the Grenzpolizei in the Gerstungen area were alerted and the patrol activity in the border area intensified. Raids were conducted in the towns of Dankmarshausen, Berka, and Gerstungen. The passengers and baggage in all trains in the border area were checked.
 10. On 18 November, it was learned that the VP Gronzkommando in Oberzella had 1 VP Kommissar, 1 VP Meister, 1 VP Hauptwachtmester, and 13 police. The VP Gronzkommando in Vacha had 1 VP Oberkommissar, 1 VP Kommissar, 1 VP Meister, and 36 police. The VP Gronzkommando in Oechsen had 20 police. Soviet border guard detachments in that area included one in Vacha, consisting of 1 senior lieutenant and 18 EM, and another in Oechsen, consisting of 1 captain and 21 EM.
 11. VP Gronzkommandos observed on 26 November included one in Lauchroden, consisting of 1 VP Kommissar, 1 VP Meister, 1 VP Hauptwachtmester, and 27 police; a second in Gerstungen, consisting of 4 VP officers and 45 police; and a third in Untersuhl, consisting of 1 VP Kommissar, 1 VP Meister, 1 VP Hauptwachtmester, and 27 police. A Soviet border guard detachment was stationed in Neustadt. It controlled the Autobahn as far as Wommen and consisted of 1 senior lieutenant, 1 junior lieutenant, and 10 EM.

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